

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-12 DLOS-09 IO-13 OES-07 /110 W  
-----122078 142124Z /66

R 141645Z NOV 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4454  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USLO PEKING  
USMISSION USUN  
CINCPAC  
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MOSCOW 16529

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: CH, UR, KN, KS, JA  
SUBJECT: SOVIET MFA KOREAN DESK OFFICER ON KOREA

REF: MOSCOW 16197

SUMMARY: IN NOV. 11 MEETING WITH EMBOFF, MFA KOREAN DESK  
OFFICER DESCRIBED USSR-NORTH KOREAN RELATIONS AS "STABLE",  
"NORMAL" AND IMPROVING; ASSOCIATED MOSCOW WITH PYONGYANG'S  
POSITION REGARDING A KOREAN PEACE SETTLEMENT AND TIES WITH  
SOUTH KOREA; SAID THAT HIGH LEVEL MFA OFFICIAL RECENTLY  
IN PYONGYANG TOLD NORTH KOREANS USSR "DOES NOT WELCOME"  
PYONGYANG'S DECISION ON MILITARY SEA BOUNDARY; NOTED THAT  
SUPREME PEOPLES' ASSEMBLY WILL MEET TOWARDS END OF 1977  
TO ELECT PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER AND TO PRESENT NEW  
SEVEN YEAR PLAN. END SUMMARY.

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1. EMBOFF MET NOV. 11 WITH MFA KOREAN DESK OFFICER  
(AND DEPUTY CHIEF, FIRST FAR EASTERN DEPT.) YURI  
DMITRIYEVICH FADEYEV. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF  
CONVERSATION. MORE DETAILED MEMCON IS BEING POUCHED.

2. KAPITSA IN NORTH KOREA: IN RESPONSE TO A DIRECT

QUESTION, FADEYEV ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE HEAD OF MFA'S FIRST FAR EAST DEPARTMENT HAD JUST VISITED NORTH KOREA. ACCORDING TO FADEYEV, KAPITSA EXCHANGED ASSESSMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES IN TALKS WITH NORTH KOREAN LEADERS. KAPITSA TOLD HIS HOSTS THAT MOSCOW "DOES NOT WELCOME" THE NORTH KOREAN DECISION ON A MILITARY SEA BOUNDARY. FADEYEV CLAIMED THE NORTH KOREANS COUNTERED THAT THE DECISION WAS DICTATED BY PYONGYANG'S SECURITY INTERESTS, CITING THE PUEBLO INCIDENT, THE DOWNING OF AN AMERICAN RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT, CONTINUING "DAILY VIOLATIONS" OF NORTH KOREAN AIR SPACE, AND THE U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN SOUTH KOREA AND ADJOINING WATERS.

3. FADEYEV SAID THE TRIP WAS ONE OF A SERIES OF HIGH LEVEL CONSULTATIONS HELD REGULARLY IN BOTH CAPITALS AND DECLINED TO SAY WHETHER KAPITSA TOOK ANY NEW SOVIET PROPOSALS ON KOREA WITH HIM.

4. TITO VISIT: FADEYEV ASKED IF KIM IL-SONG HAD RESPONDED TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE SENT THROUGH PRESIDENT TITO. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT UNFORTUNATELY THE NORTH KOREANS DO NOT SEEM TO BE ALTERING THEIR HARD LINE POSITION ON NEGOTIATIONS. EMBOFF ALSO TOOK OCCASION TO REPEAT U.S. INSISTENCE ON INCLUDING ROK IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH PYONGYANG.  
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5. SOVIET POLICY TOWARD SOUTH KOREA: FADEYEV SAID MOSCOW ACCEPTS THE "DE FACTO" BUT NOT "DE JURE" EXISTENCE OF SOUTH KOREA. HE HOPED SOUTH KOREANS ENTERTAINED NO "ILLUSIONS" ABOUT SOVIET "DE JURE" RECOGNITION IN ANY FORM. THE SOVIET UNION WILL GIVE VISAS ONLY IN EXTREMELY RARE CASES TO SOUTH KOREANS ATTENDING INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS OR SPORTS EVENTS IN THE USSR, SUCH AS THE RECENT UNESCO CONFERENCE OR THE 1980 OLYMPICS. THE LACK OF TIES MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE SOVIET UNION TO NEGOTIATE A FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH KOREA. EMBOFF OBSERVED THAT THIS DEPARTED FROM INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE SINCE SOME AREAS IN THE SOVIET 200 MILE ZONE WERE TRADITIONAL FISHING AREAS FOR SOUTH KOREAN AS WELL AS FOR OTHER FISHERMEN. FADEYEV RESPONDED THAT SOUTH KOREA IS BEING COMPENSATED ELSEWHERE THROUGH AGREEMENTS WITH NEW ZEALAND, JAPAN AND SOME WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES. WHEN EMBOFF QUESTIONED THIS, FADEYEV EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SOUTH KOREA'S PROBLEMS WITH FISHING WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO IMPEDE IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS.

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
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-----122026 142123Z /66

R 141645Z NOV 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4455  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
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CINCPAC  
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MOSCOW 16529

6. SOVIET ATTITUDE TOWARD A KOREAN SETTLEMENT:  
FADEYEV SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO STATED THE  
SOVIET POSITION TO PRESIDENT CARTER RECENTLY. THE  
SOVIET AND NORTH KOREAN POSITIONS ON THIS ISSUE COIN-  
CIDE. THE U.S. MUST PULL OUT ITS FORCES. THE KOREAN  
PROBLEM MUST BE SOLVED BY THE KOREANS THEMSELVES.  
WITH THE U.S. TROOP PULLOUT, THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT  
COULD GIVE WAY TO A PEACE AGREEMENT. LOWERING OF  
TENSIONS SHOULD FOLLOW ALONG WITH GROWTH IN ECONOMIC,  
CULTURAL AND OTHER CONTACTS AND PERHAPS LEAD TO SOME  
FORM OF CONFEDERATION IN THE LONG RUN. EVENTUALLY  
KOREA COULD BE COMPLETELY UNIFIED.

7. SOVIET RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA: FADEYEV  
CHARACTERIZED THESE AS "STABLE" AND "NORMAL". HE  
THOUGHT THAT PYONGYANG'S "WARMER" TIES WITH THE PRC  
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ARE "UNDERSTANDABLE" FOR HISTORICAL AND OTHER REASONS. PYONGYANG IS CONCENTRATING ITS EFFORTS TO WIN FRIENDS IN THE THIRD WORLD, PARTICULARLY AMONG NON-ALIGNED STATES. IT KNOWS IT CAN COUNT ON THE USSR AND ITS ALLIES AND THEREFORE WISHES TO MAINTAIN LOOSER TIES WITH THEM TO ASSIST ITS THIRD WORLD DIPLOMACY. NEVERTHELESS, SOVIET-NORTH KOREAN RELATIONS ARE IMPROVING AND A VISIT TO MOSCOW BY KIM IL-SONG IN 1978 IS A GOOD POSSIBILITY.

8. INTERNAL NORTH KOREAN POLITICAL SITUATION: THE SUPREME PEOPLES' ASSEMBLY ELECTED NOV. 12 WILL MEET IN LATE NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER TO ELECT A PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER, OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND TO PRESENT THE NEW SEVEN YEAR PLAN. KIM CHUONG-IL IS HIS FATHER'S SUCCESSOR. CHUONG IS A FULL POLITBURO MEMBER, A PARTY SECRETARY AND THE EPAULATS ON HIS UNIFORM INDICATE HE IS A GENERAL. HIS ONLY MILITARY FUNCTION IS TO COMMAND HIS FATHER'S BODYGUARD. CHUONG IS COMPLETELY ABSORBED IN PARTY ORGANIZATION WORK AND IN MOVING YOUNGER SUPPORTERS INTO IMPORTANT PARTY/GOVERNMENT POSITIONS.

9. COMMENT: FADEYEV'S COMMENTS ON SOVIET INTENTIONS TO IDENTIFY WITH PYONGYANG'S POSITION REGARDING A KOREAN SETTLEMENT AND TIES WITH SEOUL COINCIDE WITH WHAT WE HAVE BEEN HEARING FROM OTHER SOVIET OFFICIALS AND ACADEMICIANS. OUR CONCLUSION IS THAT - AT LEAST AT THE MFA WORKING LEVEL AND DESPITE SOME DIFFICULTIES IN USSR-NORTH KOREAN RELATIONS - THE SOVIETS ARE REGISTERING AN INTENTION TO STICK BY PYONGYANG IN THEIR APPROACH TO A KOREAN SETTLEMENT. MEANWHILE, IT APPEARS TO US HERE THAT THE NORTH

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KOREANS, AS WITH LIM CHUN-CHU'S NOV. 2 SPEECH IN MOSCOW (REFTTEL), WILL CONTINUE TO REGISTER PYONGYANG'S SENSITIVITIES OVER SOVIET DIPLOMACY AND TO SEEK ASSURANCES OF CONTINUING SOVIET SUPPORT.

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## Message Attributes

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